level training programmes were organised during 2001-2002. The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is the nodal department for implementation of the various provisions of the Protection of Plant Verieties and Farmers' Rights Act 2001. The Act provides for the constitution of Gene Fund which may be applied for meeting the expenditure for supporting the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources including *in-situ* and *ex-situ* collections and for strengthening the capability of the Panchayat in carrying out such conservation and sustainable use under the Clause-45(2) (c) of the aforesaid Act.

Gujarat proposals for animal husbandry and horticulture development

1772. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals for animal husbandry and horticulture development of Gujarat pending for financial assistance;

(b) since when they have been pending and the reasons therefor;

(c) by when they are likely to be cleared; and

(d) the funds allocated under these schemes during the last three years for Gujarat particularly for the Saurashtra and Kutch regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

MSPs for agricultural products

†1773. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details Minimum Support Price fixed for all the agricultural products and the foodgrains, during the last three years; and

(b) the details of crops whose prices fell below their Minimum Support Price during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A statement showing the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) fixed for major agricultural commodities during the last three years is enclosed (*See* below).

(b) The wholesale prices of several agricultural commodities ruled below the MSPs fixed by the Government at certain centres in the country. These included crops like wheat, rice coarse cereals, oilseeds, copra, etc.

Statement

Minimum Support Prices
(According to Crop Year)

(Rs. per quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
1.	Paddy	Common	490	510	530
		Grade 'A'	520	540	560
2.	Coarse Cereals (Jowar Bajra, Ragi & Maize)		415	445	485
3.	Wheat		580	610	620
4.	Barley		430	500	500
5.	Gram		1015	1100	1200
6.	Arhar		1105	1200	1320
7.	Moong		1105	1200	1320
8.	Urad		1105	1200	1320
9.	Masur (lentil)		—	1200	1300
10.	Sugarcane@		56.10	59.50	62.05
11.	Cotton	F-414/H-777/J34	1575	1625	1675
		H-4	1775	1825	1875
12.	Groundnut-in-shell		1155	1220	1340
13.	Jute		750	785	810
14.	Rapeseed/Mustard		1100	1200	1300
15.	Sunflower Seed		1155	1170	1185
16.	Soyabean	Black	755	775	795
		Yellow	845	365	885

@Statutory Minimum Price linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 per cent with proportionate premium for every 0.1 per cent increase in recovery above that level.

The MSP for Masur (lentil) has been fixed from the crop year 2000-01.

Sl. No.	Commodity	Variety	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02
17.	Safflower		1100	1200	1300
18.	Toria		1065	1165	1265
19.	Tobacco (VFC)	Black Soil (F2 Gr)	25.00	26.00	27.00
	(Rs. per kg.)	Light Soil (L2 Gr)	27.00	28.00	29.00
20.	Copra	Milling	3100	3250	3300
	(Calendar Year)	Ball	3325	3500	3550
21.	Sesamum		1205	1300	1400
22.	Nigerseed		915	1025	1100

Procurement of farmers' produce at village level

†1774. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to procure the produce of farmers by Government, at their villages, on rates fixed by Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The Government fixes each season the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of major agricultural commodities and organizes price support operations through public and cooperative agencies such as Food Corporation of India (FCI), Jute Corporation of India (JCI), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) besides other agencies designated by the State Governments. The designated Central nodal agencies open adequate number of purchase centres in different States in consultation with the State Governments. In the case of FCI, the directive of Prime Minister for opening centres within a radius of 10 kms. distance from farmers village is kept in view.

Ground water imbalance in Punjab

1775. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.